

**SPM070-14-Q-0010**

**QUESTIONS & ANSWERS**

1. Q: How many times a week and at what time do you need the service? Where would we do the process?

**A: The service is required for two hours, two times per week as stated on Section 1. Time requirement is from 10:00am to 12:00noon or 1:30 pm - 3:30 pm. The service will be performed at the Health Section at the US Embassy Panama.**

2. Q: Is the services for two hour, two times per week this is sixteen hours per month?

**A: Yes, it will be a total of sixteen hours per month providing service two hours, two days per week.**

3. Q: What insurance company covers the private service of medical specialists, hospitals and what is its coverage?

**A: The US Embassy will pay for the services of the provider as required by this contract. If the doctor recommends additional test/lab to be done outside the Embassy, each employee will cover their own additional services.**

**Each employee has their own individual private insurance. A group of employees have Blue Cross Blue Shield, however the US Government does not recommend not promote any particular insurance company.**

4. Q: Should the doctor know about occupational health or only needs to know Panamanian internal laws? Would you provide us with your country's legislation?

**A: The requirement is to provide primary medical care to adults and children of all ages. It is not primarily an occupational health position.**

5. Q: Does the contractor need to provide the medical supplies (like medications, syringes?)

**A: No**

6. Q: For the clinical services, the peripheral venipuncture refers to intravenous cannulations? If you refer to intravenous cannulation, do you have a nurse? If you mean blood extraction for lab tests, do you need a phlebotomist or our doctor would do it? We have a laboratory to do common lab tests.

**A: The physician would be expected to place an IV or draw blood in difficult cases. These functions are routinely performed by nursing staff.**

**Per US Federal law one cannot refer directly to any laboratory service which is part of the company which is also recommending the referral. (Stark Laws). This means any physician employed in your company cannot refer patients back to your laboratory.**

**No one specific laboratory is used by the Health Unit, and patients are given a choice of service. Only laboratory services which are evaluated and approved by US Regional Technologists are routinely approved to perform laboratory tests for the Health Unit.**

7. Q: For incision and drainage, do you have drugs and supplies such as: suture set, gauze pads, scalpels, which are required for this type of procedures?

**A: Yes**

8. Q: Do you have basic medications like: adrenaline, salbutamol, tetanus vaccine, and acetaminophen?

**A: Yes**

**The physician will be expected to write valid prescriptions which can be filled at local Panamanian pharmacies for medications which are needed for the medical treatment of patients, but which are not immediately available in the Embassy medical supply stock.**

9. Q: Do you have electrocardiogram machine, nebulizer for inhalation therapy, small oxygen tank with catheter? If you don't have the equipment would you like the contractor to provide them?

**A: The Health Unit is fully stocked and equipped. No supplies need to be provided.**

10. Q: Do you require vaccines in your facilities or the regulatory body of the Health Department will provide them?

**A: The Health Unit has all necessary vaccines.**

11. Q: What parameters are included in the quality control evaluation? When do you do this evaluation?

**A: Quality control involves monitoring and evaluation of the physician medical practice performance as outlined in the Performance Work Statement.**